



Eastern Express

The Newsletter of the Eastern Library System

From the Administrator

by Kathy Tooker

Vision Statement

Eastern Library System through a cooperative effort of library professionals, patrons, and public agencies, will encourage the development of leadership, foster independence, and promote awareness to improve and enrich the quality of life.

What is ELS and what do we do?

Eastern Library System, one of the six regional library systems in Nebraska, covers seven counties: Burt, Cumming, Dodge, Douglas, Sarpy, Saunders, and Washington. Any library, academic, public, school, or special, in this area is eligible to be a system member. Regional library systems were established in 1983 to improve library services to the citizens of the state by providing continuing education, training, consulting, resource sharing, library promotion, and networking to librarians and school media specialists.

Since fall is right around the corner and there are many new school media specialists as well as library staff in other libraries, it is a good time to review what services ELS provides.

Continuing Education: Last year, ELS provide 91 contact hours to public librarians and library trustees. While any system member can attend workshops and training session, we can only give CE credit to those who work in public libraries or on a public library board. Continuing education events ranged from an overnight retreat for youth services librarians to a colloquium on marketing. Several training sessions dealt with technology.

One upcoming event is a preconference on October 24, sponsored by all regional systems. It is the LAMA (Library Administration and Management Association) Institute on image and marketing. Many have attended past LAMA Institutes and are aware of the excellence of these programs. Another high quality program will be the Fall Colloquium sponsored by the Eastern and the Southeast Library Systems. Held at the Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln, the colloquium starts with a social hour, followed by dinner and a program. This fall's speaker will be Michael Stephens who will talk about Library 2.0 and using it as a "strategy guide" for helping users find information and creating content. Looking ahead to the Spring Colloquium on April 10, the presenters will be Bill and Gene, creators of the electronic comic strip "unshelved" and authors of several humorous books on librarianship. These are just three of the many opportunities for continuing education; others will be announced later.

Consulting: The system office answers many consulting calls on a wide variety of topics. Questions or concerns come in by phone, email, fax, and personal contact. If we don't know or can't find the answer for you, we know who to contact. If you would like me to visit your library, please call as I love to visit all types of libraries.

Resource Sharing: The system office has a small collection of profession library science books, articles, video tapes and DVDs that we lend. We also have about a dozen periodicals of interest to librarians that we route. All you need to do is call and be asked to be put on the routing list.

New and proving to be very popular are 14 Book Bags filled with 30 copies of a title to be used for book discussion groups for middle and high school age kids. We plan on adding more titles to this collection.

While we don't have a lot of equipment, what we do have is available for system members to borrow for use in their libraries.

- Follett Dolphin PHD Plus scanner
- Projector
- Laptop
- Public Address System
- DVD Player
- Accu Cut Dies
- Playaway Books to try
- iPods loaded with audio books to try
- Bifolkal Kits to be used for programming

More information on each of these can be found at our web page at www.elsne.org or call the system office at 402-330-7884.

Promotion: *Eastern Express*, the systems' online newsletter, is a great way to find out what is going on not only in libraries the system, but also in state and nation. Please tell your colleagues to visit our web site for to read (and print) the latest issue. Also, share your news with us so we can share it with others in the area.

Networking: To facilitate sharing and the exchange of ideas, ELS has established two groups. DIRECT, that meets every other month, is for public library directors. CLICK, for librarians that work with youth, meets four times a year. Serving on an ELS committee or on the board of directors also results in librarians getting to know about other types of libraries and each other. And last but certainly not least, is the Nebraska Library Leadership Institute sponsored by all the regional library systems with funding from the Nebraska Library Commission.

Charles Gordon is the newly appointed Nebraska Library Commissioner. Mr. Gordon, a retired educator from Fremont, is also the chair of the Trustees, Users and Friends Section of NLA.

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Copyright Law– Part 1

By Phyllis Brunken

This article is the first of a six-part series on copyright for educators and public librarians based on the questions from participants of the many workshops that I have presented over that last ten years. Any presentation or article I prepare must contain the following statement: I am not an attorney and this bibliography and article may not be substituted for formal legal advice from an attorney well versed in school law and copyright law.

Why is understanding copyright law important? Copyright law protects the rights of the owner of nearly everything in our libraries and schools. We must understand copyright law and its exceptions such as “fair use” to facilitate the utilization of the library and educational materials by our patrons, teachers and students.

The first place to start with copyright law is a list of my favorite resources:

Copyright Catechism; Practical answers to Everyday School Dilemmas by Carol Simpson, Worthington, Ohio, Linworth Publishing, 2005

Copyright for Schools; a Practical Guide by Carol Mann Simpson
Second Edition, Worthington, Ohio, Linworth Publishing, 1997 and Fourth Edition 2005

Copyright Articles by Carrie Russell in School Library Journal

Copyright Law for Librarians and Educators by Dr. Kenneth Crews, ALA, 2005

Concept of Fair Use – Dr. Ken Crews <http://www.copyright.iupui.edu/checklist.htm>

Nebraska Library Commission -- Copyright Handbook <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/copyright/copyright1.html>

Hal Davidson’s Classroom Copyright Chart and Copyright Chart

<http://www.mediafestival.org/copyrightchart.html>

When U.S. Works Pass Into Public Domain by Lolly Gasaway <http://www.unc.edu/~uncnlg/public-d.htm>

Copyright Term and the Public Domain in the United States, January 1, 2007 http://www.copyright.cornell.edu/training/Hirtle_Public_Domain.htm

Please send an email to me if you want a complete bibliography of my recommended copyright law resources or have a copyright law question. Phyllis Brunken pbrunken@cox.net

Part II – Fair Use [in next newsletter]

*****I

IRS 501-c-3 Designation for Your Library

[CKLS Post, July-August 2007]

A public library can qualify as a 501-c-3 charitable giving recipient because it is a publicly funded agency of local government. If a donor requires documentation before making a donation to your library, you need to contact the IRS and request a letter. Your library does not need a letter as long as it is funded with public funds, but if your donor insists on having a document you can write to the Internal Revenue Service and request the letter:

Internal Revenue Service
Exempt Organizations Determinations
P.O. Box 2508
Cincinnati, OH 45201

Reminder:

If you want to print the newsletter - which we suggest if you have others in your organization who do not have computer access - click on the printer icon and not "file/print."

System News

Winner!

Congratulations to Laura Pietsch, media specialist at Bellevue East High School, for winning the drawing to attend the School Library Journal Leadership Summit in Phoenix, Arizona. "Where's the Evidence: Understanding the Impact of School Libraries" is the theme for this year's summit which will be held from November 30th to December 1st.

What They Did With Those ELS Grants (Adult & Children's Services Grants given by Eastern Library System reap rewards)

Springfield - A total of thirty-five easy non-fiction titles were added to the Springfield Memorial library's collection shortly before they began their Summer Reading Program. After their first session one young boy announced, as he was checking out books, that he had seen our newest titles. He also pointed them out to the other children. Each week, this child hunted for those new books he had spotted on his first visit for the summer. Needless to say, the new easy reader non-fiction books are a hit with both the kids and the parents at the library. Connie Manzer, director, says, "Thank you to the Eastern Library System for awarding us this grant."

Ralston - [submitted by Yolanda Jasso and Francine Canfield] One of the goals of the Baright Public Library strategic plan is to develop more outreach programs. The ELS grant helped our partnership with the local school district and their English Language Learner (ELL) program. Much of the success of our outreach to our ELL customers is attributable to our library associate, Yolanda Jasso, who has ELL as her outreach responsibility. We purchased 34 books with our \$500 ELS grant in April; by mid-July, 91% of them had circulated. Of the current 45 books, 80% has circulated since we started the grant.

The most popular books are those dealing with English instruction, immigration, and health issues. One particular book which has been checked out frequently is *Gordito no significa saludable; lo que toda madre Latina debe saber* (*Gordito does not mean healthy; what every Latino mother should know*). One customer liked it so much, she wanted to know if she could pay us to order a copy for her. Customers have requested additional materials in Spanish. A request for Spanish CDs prompted a donation of six CDs – five checked out the week!

The grant gave the library a good start in our Spanish language materials for adults. We plan to add about forty books a year to the collection.



L-R Robbie, Erika, Blake, Corbin, Katie, Kyle, Jessica (with the book) Stephen, Adam, Jonathan, Taylor, Toni

A Party for Jessica [by Toni Reese, Sump Memorial Library, Papillion] About 6 ½ years ago, when I was preparing for my first Summer Reading Program, I decided to try having Teen Volunteers. We had about 14 that first year, 12-year-old Jessica Harvey being one. I had never met Jessica before, and found her to be serious, quiet, and reliable. Whatever I asked of Jessica, I knew would be done well. When that first Summer Reading Program ended, a few of the volunteers wondered if we could keep some sort of teen activity going once school started. We decided on a book discussion group. Jessica and three or four other girls were charter members. Over the past six years, I've seen Jessica at just about every Thursday afternoon for book group. She's also taken part in the Omaha Public Library Poetry Bash, was a member of the teen panel when the author Terry Trueman came to Omaha, was a Nebraska Outstanding Youth Volunteer, a member of the Teen Advisory Board, and was a Teen Volunteer every summer up until this one, when she worked at the library as a paid employee. Through all these and other activities and responsibilities, she's come to book group just about every week, year-round. Our Thursday afternoon book discussion group has evolved over the years to include more boys than girls, and mostly high-school-age kids rather than junior-high students. Since Jessica is a founding member of the group, and one of its staunchest and most steadfast participants, we in the book group decided we needed to have a going-away party for Jessica. About half of the group has read Stephanie Meyer's Twilight and its sequel New Moon and they love these books. When the third book in the series, Eclipse, was released a couple of weeks ago, Jessica and one other girl immediately went out and bought their own copies. They both have said that Eclipse is the best one yet. Well anyway, this enthusiasm for all things Twilight gave the group the idea that our party should have a Twilight theme. I Netflixed the original "Dracula" (released when my 95 year-old mom was 19 years old) and we watched that while munching on chocolate chip bars that Corbin brought and our very own individual bags of M&M's and Hot Tamales which Jessica brought, and sipping sun tea that Corbin brought. I don't think "Dracula" scared anyone; on the contrary, several scenes brought hoots of laughter from the audience, me included. After the movie, we ate again. Katie had brought pasta, Taylor had brought blood-red fruit punch, I brought spaghetti sauce, a green salad, and bread. The most impressive part of the meal, though, was the red velvet (blood, get it?) cake that Kyle made, complete with homemade cream cheese frosting and glow-in-the dark vampire teeth. A few hokey decorations and a card for Jessica that everyone signed, made the afternoon complete. I hate to see Jessica go, but I'm so excited for her. Next week she leaves for Doane College in Crete. The opportunity to work with young people like Jessica is one reason why I believe I have The World's Best Job.

News from ELS Public Libraries.....

Oakland Public Library has two book clubs meeting in the library, one in the afternoon and one in the evening. Both have been well received.

Director Karla Schaffer, **Hooper Public Library**, has been working hard to get their new Follett Software Company Destiny program up and running.

The **Baright Public Library (Ralston)** surveyed library customers to find out their reaction to using Playaway audio books. *(If you would like to try a Playaway book, call the system office and we will lend you one.)*

Using a laptop computer is now a breeze at the **Tekamah Public Library** as they are now wireless. They are also working on getting funding to add an addition to the Carnegie library building. *(Tekamah is one of three public libraries in ELS that is in an original Carnegie building; the others are Ashland and North Bend. For more information on Carnegie libraries in Nebraska, visit the Library Commission web page at <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us> and search under Carnegie Libraries.)*

Bess Johnson Elkhorn Library (OPL) received funding from a local funeral home to start a grief support group. Branch manager Wendy Anderson reports that people of all ages have been attending. While at the library, they can check out grief kits for kids and teens.

Journaling, genealogy, and a Jane Austen Book Club are all being offered at the **Valley Public Library**.

The Teen Advisory Board was instrumental in a fun mystery evening at the **Bennington Public Library**. They have started a book club for 5th and 6th graders.

Over 1000 kids visited the **Wahoo Public Library** during the Summer Reading Program. Children's librarian, Carrie Trunta offered a different program every day for eight weeks based on a different theme. The library also held its first library sleepover. Twenty five people are attending ESL classes at the library.

Building is on the menu at the **Blair Public Library**. Ruth Peterson, director, reports that they are one step closer now and can ask for funds that the city will match. She also reported that a program On Mari

Sandoz by Ron Hull was very well attended and resulted in eight people joining their Friends group.

State Senator Carol Hudson presented the Summer Reading Program awards to children who had completed the program at the **Ceresco Community Library**. "Book Chicks" is the name of their new teen book club. The adult books clubs selects what to read in a novel way, by the alphabet. First author read name started with an "A", next was "B," and so on.

Keene Memorial Library (Fremont) has hosted a movie on the lawn. *Happy Feet* was shown to around 65 very satisfied viewers. Another successful program was Be A Tree, how to judge safety when meeting a strange dog. A local vet presented the program.

If you visit the **Snyder Public Library**, you will find it newly remodeled. Removal of a wall, new paint and carpet brighten the library and a new circulation desk makes Director Betty Niewohner's job easier. The library also now has an electronic database of their materials complete with Dewey number and subject headings thanks to UNO graduates students in the library science program under the direction of Dr. Becky Pasco. All are invited to attend an open house will be held on September 16, from 11 am—2 pm.

Gretna Public Library, the fastest growing community in the state, has outgrown its 4,000 sq. ft. library built 15 years ago and is making progress on building a new facility. The city has placed a new library on its priority list and is looking for the best location for it on property they now own. Now it is up to the Gretna Library Foundation to raise the necessary funds.

Laureate's Feast 2007

The John G. Neihardt Foundation and Metropolitan Community College is hosting "Homer of the Plains" on Sunday, November 4, 2007, at the Fort Omaha Campus from 5-9 p.m. Contact Walt Duda at 402-556-7644 for more information.

October is National Medical Librarians Month

Thank you to all medical librarians in the Eastern Library System for all that you do for the community and beyond.

more news

Have you heard about Omaha Street School?

It is an alternative high school, located in North Omaha, that puts at-risk youth back on the road to success by helping them get back in school, see some academic success, and hopefully, graduate. The recent accreditation process required the school have a working library with current books related to the curriculum. This summer, volunteers made it happen by organizing a book fair, updating reading material to more closely coincide with teen interests, and completely rebuilding the library space. The OSS Library is now an exciting, welcoming place for all students---and more students are reading than ever before. You can help add to their small, but growing collection by donating both fiction and nonfiction books you are deleting from your libraries, but have recent copyright dates and would be useful in a high school library.

To donate books, contact Donna Wenzel, donwenz@aol.com or Sara Mitchell, smitchell@westside66.org. For more information about the school, go to <http://omahastreetschool.org>.

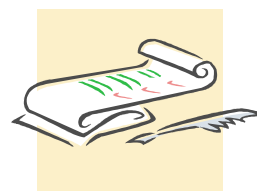


Mem Fox is coming!

Would you like to hear her presentation "free?" The Nebraska Regional Library Systems are offering a \$50 scholarship to one person from each system to attend the Pre-conference on October 24th. Go to www.elsne.org and click on "Mem Fox" to register.

Trustee Obligations

[*Library Administrator's Digest*, February 2005 (*Marigold Report*, Marigold Library System (AB), November 2004)]



A library board member has six legal obligations, stemming from English Common Law. When a board member follows these obligations, he/she minimizes conflict, controversy and the possibility of being sued.

1. You are expected to manage the affairs of the library system with the same degree of skill and hard work and care you bring to your own affairs.
2. You have a duty to become informed about the business of the board. This includes awareness of applicable legislation and what you need to know to be an effective trustee.
3. You must keep confidential private information you learn as a result of your activity as a trustee, and may not personally benefit from it, either during your term or after.
4. When you are a trustee, you must put the best interests of the board before your own or any other.
5. You may not make advance agreement with another person or organization to vote a certain way.
6. If you stand to make a personal profit from any activity of the board, you must declare your interest, and may not participate in discussion or vote in relation to it.

There are three ethical/moral obligations as well:

1. You must want to serve as a trustee
2. You must indorse, without reservation, the mission of the library system.
3. You must believe in the value of Libraries.

Board members have public trust.



Worth Checking Out

Intellectual Freedom Blog

Brenda Ealey, Southeast Library System Administrator and chair of NLA's Intellectual Freedom Committee, has put together a great blog at <nlaif.blogspot.com> to talk about IF issues, activities, helps, information on Banned Books Week, and programs in cooperation with AFCON (Academic Freedom Coalition of Nebraska), and ACLU Nebraska.

Organizational Change

Jodene Glaesemann, Walt Branch Library supervisor, Lincoln City Libraries, has an essay in *Public Libraries*, May/June 2007, in the Perspectives column. In the column topic, "Making Changes and Staying Happy," and Glaesemann relates how she came back from the PLA Conference in 2006 full of ideas for change both behind the scenes and out where the public would see. Some were simple things like putting up questions on Post-it notes in the break room so staff could voice their opinions. Another change was having a different person take charge of the morning briefing for the staff including non-supervisory staff.

Other changes were staff getting out from behind the public services desk at times and floating where they can meet and help where the customers are. Staff also took turns preparing and choosing guerilla displays to market the collection. Topics have included Smoke Out Day, National Maple Syrup Day, Pearl harbor Day, and Talk Like a Pirate Day. Not only in the staff using their creative talents, customers discover old and new library materials.

While not doing in depth reference or reader's advisory, library aides are encouraged to help customers when they are asked. Who knows the collection better than library aides since they shelve the materials?

Glaesemann says, "Overall, we've changed as a branch and an organization in the way we look at providing service. The way this has been implemented over the past year has allowed the staff to be part of the process, to own it, and to thrive—to the benefit of the customers." Customers really like one small change initiated at the Walt Branch, having fresh flowers in the public restroom. What a great way to show customers that they are important.

Simply del.icio.us

Skype, Digg, and 35 other sites you need to know about are all included in an "Internet Spotlight" column in *Public Libraries* (May/June 2007) by David Lee King and Michael Porter. *Thirty-seven Sites in Two Thousand Words* or Less is just that, a listing and short explanation of internet sites the authors feel are worth exploring. The number one site to visit is <del.icio.us> where you can find links to all the sites listed plus others, as well as file your bookmarks. If you want to interlibrary loan a copy of this column, just call the system office.

Grant Sources

For librarians interested in grant opportunities go to Library Grants at librarygrants.blogspot.com. This blog announces grants available to libraries nationally. Each posting provides a brief description of the grant and the website where the application can be downloaded.

Amazon Discounts

Did you know that Amazon.com has a discount outlet? Well it does, just visit www.junglecrazy.com to find all sorts of bargains that have been discounted 70% or more. There is even a one-cent bin. Most tend to be tech related but discounts on home and garden products, clothing and the funniest—a lobster claw Halloween dog costume — can be found here.

Foreign Language Punctuation

For punctuation of foreign language words such as Espanol with the tilde over the "n," put this site in your favorite list <freetranslation.com>. Choose the language you want and all the punctuation (attached to the letter) is at your fingertips. Copy the letter into your document and it will match your font and size. [Seen in *Library Media Connection*, "Tips from Your Colleagues," August/September 2007]

*If you can't change your fate,
change your attitude. —author
Amy Tan*

Resources For Youth Services Librarians & Media Specialists

Act Now!

The Lois Lenski Covey Foundation, Inc. annually awards grants to rural and urban, public and school libraries serving children at-risk. The Foundation gives priority to applications from libraries with real need and limited book budgets. Funds are earmarked for purchasing books for young people, not administrative or operational use. A user-friendly, two-page application form is available from The Lois Lenski Covey Foundation, Inc., Attn: Joel D. Sharrow, Moses & Singer LLP, The Chrysler Building, 405 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10174-1299 - or go to the ELS website and click on "Grants" <http://www.elsne.org/> Grants must be received **NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 15, 2007.**

VOYA (August 2007) has published their list of Nonfiction Honor titles for 2007. The criteria for making this list include:

- Age suitable for middle school/junior high readers in grades six to eight
- Address curricula needs or personal reading interests
- Were published in 2007
- Contain some element that raises them above other books on the same topic.

To interlibrary loan a copy of this article, contact the system office.

Kids@ your library™

ALA's Association for Library Service to children has added new resources to its "kids@your library" online tool kit at <http://www.ala.org/kids/> Produced by librarians for librarians, the tool kit contains free resources for promoting the library and its services to children and their families. This site has an abundance of materials to support children's services. To name just a few, information on: Read-a-thons, author vis-

its, good ideas, helping homeschoolers and parents, good ideas for reaching out, downloadable logo art and music, games and puzzles plus lots more.

New Accu Cut Die Set

With next year's Summer Reading Program "Catch the Reading Bug" with creepy crawlers in mind, ELS has purchased a die set of bugs. Included in the set are a beetle, dragonfly, grasshopper, scorpion, and spider. ELS will loan any of the dies we have to system members. A list of the dies can be found at our web site at <http://www.elsne.org/>

Reluctant Readers?

Here are some questions to ask to help you choose books for reluctant readers.

- ? Does the book contain a plot that will make the reader want to know more?
- ? Are the characters in the story believable and well defined?
- ? Will the story make the reader laugh?
- ? Does the book have short, easy-to-read chapters?
- ? Is the book relevant to the reader?
- ? Does the book contain text that is appropriate to the reader?
- ? Does the book seem attractive enough to make the reader want to buy it?

—Aparna Nambiar, Storyteller, India

[Seen in *Library Sparks*, February 2007]

Children read to learn — even when they are reading fantasy, nonsense, light verse, comics, or the copy on cereal packets, they are expanding their minds all the time, enlarging their vocabulary, making discoveries; it is all new to them.

Author Joan Aiken

This is the fifth in a series of Eastern Library System member interviews by Nancy. ELS serves public, school, academic and special libraries. One representative of each type will be featured in the articles.

Ashland Public Library - Cindy Lutz, director



The Ashland Public Library is a "Carnegie" built in 1911. It definitely has character but the steps are steep and the area much too small. Hopefully, plans for a new library will continue to progress. They have just become accredited.

Cindy taught 6th grade in Ashland for 30 years. In September, 2004, just three weeks into her retirement the public library director position became available. Cindy was hired and the board of directors had to "run" the library while Cindy went on a planned trip. This worked out well as the board gained new insight on how a library functions and a new appreciation for the multi-faceted duties of a librarian. Cindy and her husband have two daughters and three grandchildren. She went to school at the University of Northern Iowa and Morningside College. Cindy brings one of her black lab dogs with her when she works late. No library cat in Ashland.

Cindy didn't use the state's Summer Reading Program "Get a Clue @ your library" this year. But who can blame her? "Explore with Astronaut Anderson" was just too perfect of a theme to pass up. After all, Clayton Anderson, an astronaut aboard the International Space Station, not only has ties to Ashland but his mother, Alice Anderson, is the assistant librarian. His family went to Florida in June for the launch and plans to go back in November for his return to earth. The library was decorated floor to ceiling with space ships all summer. Cindy said this was the biggest Summer Reading Program ever with 189 participants from ages 2-102. She has always included adults in the summer program. They like seeing their names in

the newspaper and winning prizes. Cindy works with the activity director at the care center and reads to patients in the Alzheimer's unit every Friday. She is amazed at their response to the spoken word.

A highlight of the summer came on August 3rd. This was the end of the reading program and, of course, there was a party. Very few people knew that this was the day Clayton was going to call from space. The high school set up a sound system on the lawn. The telephone call came right on schedule. Clayton's voice boomed out - the kids eyes widened and most of them looked up at the sky. Clayton had an important message for them, "Keep reading. It'll make you smarter in the long run and maybe you will be in space some day." Before Clayton left on his journey Cindy had him sign "space books" to give as prizes. A couple of weeks before I did this interview Clayton called the library looking for his mother - Cindy said her heart just pounded talking to him! Plans are in the works for a special homecoming party for him in November.

In mid July Ashland has a "Stir-up" festival. This year as part of the kiddie parade one mother spray-painted some outfits orange to match astronaut Clayton's uniform.



[Cindy's grandkids are the blonds]

Clayton posed for a READ@ poster and bookmark for libraries and media centers to use to promote reading. The Nebraska Library Commission will send you a CD to print off the poster and bookmark. Contact Alyssa Bundy: abundy@nlc.state.ne.us



FREE TALKING BOOKS SO YOU CAN KEEP ON READING!

Individuals with visual or physical disabilities may qualify for free talking books from the Nebraska Library Commission. No one needs to forego the pleasure of reading just because they cannot see regular print or hold a book or turn its pages. Not when recorded books, magazines, and playback equipment are free to any qualifying Nebraskan.

The Nebraska Library Commission's Talking Book and Braille Service, working with the Library of Congress, offers 60,000 book titles and 100 magazines, mostly on cassette. The book collection includes nationwide bestsellers, westerns, biographies, history, and romances. Our Prairie Lane Studios record books and magazines about Nebraska or the Great Plains.

A cassette player is loaned to each borrower. It has large buttons and can be adapted with finger extenders for the control keys and headphones for private listening. All materials are mailed to borrowers and returned to the Talking Book and Braille Service postage-free.

For information or an application form, contact: 1-800-742-7691. talkingbook@nlc.state.ne.us.

If you prefer, an application form can be downloaded from:
<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/tbbs/tbbs11.html>.

Contact: David Oertli, Director
Talking Book and Braille Service
talkingbook@nlc.state.ne.us
1-800-742-7691



The theme for the 2007 **Banned Book Week** (September 29-October 6) is "Banned Book Ahoy! Treasure Your Freedom to Read." Posters, t-shirts, tote bags, and a resource guide are available at the ALA online store - <http://www.alastore.ala.org/>

Youth Grants for Excellence

The grants are now available at: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/youthgrants/youthgrantsabout.html>

Applications must be received by the Nebraska Library Commission with the postmarked date no later than October 19, 2007. Faxes will not be accepted. You will be notified by December 5, 2007, if you are awarded a grant. Contact Sally Snyder with questions. ssnyder@nlc.state.ne.us



Children's Book Week is November 12-18. The theme is "Rise Up Reading." Beginning in 2008 it will be celebrated in May. Go to <http://www.cbcbooks.org/cbw/> for more information and dates.

Scholarships Available

The Paraprofessional Section is offering four \$50 scholarships to attend the 2007 NLA/NEMA Annual Conference – *Nebraska Libraries: Charting Paths to the Future*. The Conference will be held October 24-26, 2007, in Kearney, NE. This year's keynote speakers will be author/actress Harley Jane Kozak and photographer Joel Sartore. Click the following link for more information on the conference <http://www.2007nla-nema.info/>. You must be a member of the Paraprofessional section to receive this scholarship. The scholarship recipients will be asked to submit an article about their experience to the Para's newsletter.

If you are interested, please submit your name, address, email, phone, library affiliation, and reason for applying for the scholarship to Jennifer Wrampe, jwrampe@nlc.state.ne.us. All applications must be received by **October 19, 2007**.

Louise A Nixon Scholarship Winners

- ☺ Marcia Dority-Baker, UNL
- ☺ Karen Dalziel, UNL
- ☺ Rose Fredrick, McGoogan

Duane Munson Scholarship Winner

- ☺ Haishu Zhu, Lincoln City Libraries

More FYI

Nebraskans to Read *Restoring the Burnt Child* in 2008

One Book One Nebraska 2008 invites citizens across the state to read *Restoring the Burnt Child*, by Nebraska's own State Poet William Kloefkorn. The Nebraska Center for the Book board selected *Restoring the Burnt Child*, the second volume in Kloefkorn's four-part memoir which, when completed, will cover the four elements: water, fire, earth, and air. Libraries across Nebraska are encouraged to join other literary and cultural organizations in planning for 2008 activities and events to encourage Nebraskans to read and discuss this memoir of a small-town boy's life in 1940s. Support materials to assist with reading/discussion activities will be distributed in early 2008. See the Library Commission Blog, <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/blogs/NLC/>, for an ongoing discussion of library tools and programming ideas for One Book One Nebraska 2008.

State Poet William Kloefkorn shares his thoughts on One Book One Nebraska 2008:

"Our stories often reveal the variety of experiences that collectively we call our 'education.' It is a good thing, seems to me, for us to write about these experiences, and to share them with others. By doing this we can form and strengthen communities, from the immediate family to the extended one, from a child listening to a nursery rhyme, to a book club discussing the Canterbury Tales. It is a means of defining ourselves, and learning to know one another in ways we never dreamed of. Mark Twain wrote, with his tongue only slightly touching its storyteller's cheek, 'Never let your schooling interfere with your education.' But I would add this: 'Never let your schooling end when your schooling ends.' I hope that my second memoir, *Restoring the Burnt Child*, connects with a variety of readers, whoever they are, wherever they live, however down-home or embellished their education."

Librarians have always known that books and reading connect people across time and place. In a rapidly accelerating trend, libraries in Nebraska have brought their communities together through literature by hosting community-wide reading programs. In 2005, through an initiative launched by the Willa Cather Pioneer Memorial and Educational Foundation, the first One Book One Nebraska project promoted statewide reading and discussion of Willa Cather's *My Ántonia*.

One Book One State 2005 Chair Susan Maher recalled, "When members of the One Book One State steering committee met in Kearney during the 2004 Nebraska Book Festival, we had no idea whether our vision for a statewide reading of Willa Cather's *My Ántonia* would gain interest or not. Very few states in the nation had attempted a statewide read, putting Nebraska in the avant-garde of this kind of wide-reaching effort... Communities across the state of Nebraska embraced this, scheduling all kinds of events... The people of Nebraska made *One Book One State* an enormous success." We look forward to the same kind of overwhelming response to One Book One Nebraska 2008. For more information contact Mary Jo Ryan, Nebraska Library Commission Communications Coordinator, 402-471-3434, 800-307-2665, e-mail: mjryan@nlc.state.ne.us.

Promote Your SKILLS

[*School Library Journal*, Sept., 2007]

Now is your chance to be heard. The American Library Association is urging librarians to contact their representatives in Washington, DC, to cosponsor the SKILLS Act. The bill requires a state-certified media specialist in every K-12 school building by 2010 and includes school librarians in the "highly qualified" category of No Child Left Behind (NCLB), which is up for renewal later this year. The new bill may be included as part of NCLB.

The **Paraprofessional of the Year Award** goes to Angela Kroeger. Angela is a cataloging associate at the UNO library. Congratulations.

National Friends of Libraries Week - October 21-27

The celebration offers a two-fold opportunity to celebrate the Friends. 1. Promote your group to the community to increase membership and, 2. Recognize the Friends for their support of the library. Check the FOLUSA website for resources. <http://www.folusa.org>

&

Rural Librarians Talk about Salaries

Results of the Rural Library Staff Salary Survey, are now available. Go to:

www.ala.org/ala/olos/aboutolos/oloscommittees/rnt/RuralLibSalarySurvey.pdf

Pictures from the Youth Services Retreat

Karen Drevo, Norfolk Public Library - lots of great bilingual ideas



Alana Novotny, Nebraska Library Commission, showed us "Second Life"

Wendy Anderson, Elkhorn Branch Library, and her "puppet show"



Telling the story. A good time was had by all and we learned a lot at the same time.



Youth Services Retreat Report

by Joni Wilder, La Vista Public Library

I attended the youth services retreat sponsored by the Eastern Library System from Thursday, September 6-Friday, September 7th, 2007. Overall, the retreat programs were excellent. Thursday morning, Karen Drevo presented a program on programming for young children with Spanish language experience. Karen offered great ideas for putting together a Spanish language story time or simply introducing simple Spanish words into regular story times. I'm going to begin introducing simple words and phrases to children in my story times to help them expand their own language and experience.

In the afternoon, I listened to Allana Novotny talk about the computer game "Second Life". While her presentation was interesting, I'm not sure it's a program we can introduce into the library yet. Gaming is definitely an activity I would like to get started in the library, but I believe console gaming is a better place to begin.

Ms. Novotny's program was followed by Wendy Anderson with a fantastic presentation about puppets and finger plays. While I already incorporate finger plays into my story times, I haven't done as much with the library puppets. Wendy offered so many wonderful ideas that would be very simple to try. I am putting together ideas to use more of the library puppets in story time and programs.

Friday morning Megan Boggs talked about her after hour's library programs for teens. Megan shared so many creative ideas to draw teens into the library and keep them coming back. While I'm not sure we could do programs after the library closes, I would like to try Saturday programs and see if the teens come if I try some of Megan's ideas.

The final program was a presentation by Sally Snyder, who did book reviews and shared ideas for the 2008 summer reading program. While my library has some of the books she mentioned, there are many other excellent titles that will enhance our collection and support next year's reading program. I have already begun planning next year's summer reading program and I am looking forward to using some of the titles Ms. Snyder talked about.

Thursday evening, the children's librarians had a chance to talk and share about books, programs, new ideas, reworking current programs or ideas, and many other topics.

The opportunity to network with so many experienced and creative people was truly invaluable. The youth services retreat was both informative and enjoyable. I look forward to attending next year.





*I dreamed I lay
where flowers were
springing Gaily in
the sunny beam...*
Robert Burns

**COME JOIN US
IN BONNY
SCOTLAND!
July 19, 2008-
August 1, 2008**

The Regional Library Systems are sponsoring a trip to Scotland next summer. Highlights will include Burns Country, Culloden, Cawdor Castle, Stirling Castle and more. Full itinerary with pricing will be available from your System Office.

Grant to Blair Public Library

The Blair Public Library received a \$500.00 grant from the Eastern Library System to purchase ten book club kits for the library. A committee made up of members from local book discussion groups and library staff members met and chose ten titles for purchase. Each book kit contains eight printed copies of the book, and one unabridged copy of the book on CD. Many times a patron loves to participate in a discussion group, but isn't able to get a book read, although may have time to listen to the book while exercising or driving. The books on CD have been very popular with some members of each group.



The book kits are available for Interlibrary Loan to other libraries.

Call and make a reservation if your library book group would like to borrow a kit. The following kits are available for check out: *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls, *The Lady and the Panda* by Vicki Croke, *Love and Other Impossible Pursuits* by Ayelet Waldman, *March* by Geraldine Brooks, *Mountains Beyond Mountains* by Tracy Kidder, *The Myth of You and Me* by Leah Stewart, *The River of Doubt* by Candice Millard, *The Shadow of the Wind* by Carlos Ruiz Zafon, *Suite*

Francaise by Irene Nemirovsky, and *Water for Elephants* by Sara Gruen.

BOOK REVIEW

Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace...One School At A Time by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin

by John Seyfarth, Sump Memorial Library

My wife Linda recently retired from being a Library Media Specialist for twelve of her twenty-six years of teaching, and has been making progress on reading a shelf full of books that she had purchased, and hadn't had time to read. One of the first was *Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace...One School At A Time* by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin. She was enthusiastic about me reading it throughout, and I wasn't as taken as she would have liked, but after she finished it, and gave it to me to read, I started it. Once I got into it, I couldn't put it down. It is a non-fiction story of a mountain climber that was rescued from a failed attempt at climbing K2 (the second highest peak in the world after Everest), in Pakistan by villagers and porters from a remote mountain village. He felt so indebted to the village that he pledged to return to build a school for girls. After months of valiantly trying to raise \$12,000, he returned and was unable to complete the task due to his naivety of local political situation and customs. He went back raised more funds, became better organized, and returned to the village, and finally a school building was completed after several false starts and overcoming a number of obstacles in several different categories. In the end, he has become the engine that has seen to it that over 55 schools (serving over 24,000 children) and a number of other pre-requisite public works projects have been completed in Pakistan and Afghanistan. He has earned the trust of many including political leaders and Islamic clerics, and has made a substantial difference in enhancing the education of both girls and boys in the remote regions of these two countries.

The book is very well written, and tells an exciting story, with all the adventure that anyone could want in reading a book. Furthermore, the results at the end are really uplifting, and it is a wonderful counterpoint to the constant negative news that repeats itself constantly in the media from these two countries. One of the best things is that it gives the reader a lot of hope for the situations in Pakistan and Afghanistan. It is compelling and really worth the time to read.

Eastern Library System 2008 Adult Services Grant

Introduction: Eastern Library System is offering two (2) \$500 grants for projects and/or services that will benefit adult library customers. These grants are open to all ELS member libraries that provide services for adults. Grant funds are to be an addition to the current budget.

Description: Projects and / or services should include one of the following:

Collection development either recommended fiction or non-fiction titles.
Provide list of what will be purchased.

New service or program for adult customers.

Instructions: Complete the following form and submit six (6) copies by November 1, 2007, to: Kathleen Tooker, Eastern Library System, 11929 Elm Street, Suite 12, Omaha, NE 68144. **Faxes will not be accepted.** Applications will be reviewed by the Eastern Library System Continuing Education Committee.

Library Name: _____

Grant Director: _____ Title: _____

E-Mail: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

If awarded a grant, does the grant go to the library or library Friends or foundation? _____

Please answer all of the following statements on a separate page(s). **Address each bulleted and numbered section by titles, i.e. B. Project Description, B. 4 Implementation.**

Project Title

Project Description (must address each of the following):

Identify need

Goals

Objectives

Implementation

Letters of support or partnerships

Evaluation

Estimated cost / budget and total cost

Benefit to adult customers. State in terms of results and outcomes for them based on goals.

Starting and completing dates

Grant Director

Date

Eastern Library System

2008 Children's / Youth Services Grant

Introduction: Eastern Library System is offering two (2) \$500 grants for projects and/or services that will benefit children and young adults. These grants are open to all ELS member libraries that provide services for children and/or young adults. (Schools should submit an application from the district, not from an individual school.) Grant funds are to be an addition to the current budget.

Description: Projects and / or services should include one of the following:

★ Collection development (1) to replace worn or discarded books and / or (2) from recommended lists (Golden Sower, Caldecott, Newberry, Notable Books, etc.) Provide list of what will be purchased.

Children's literature course from any university or college.

New program or service for children or young adults.

Instructions: Complete the following form and submit six (6) copies by November 1, 2007, to: Kathleen Tooker, Eastern Library System, 11929 Elm Street, Suite 12, Omaha, NE 68144. **Faxes will not be accepted.** Applications will be reviewed by the Eastern Library System Continuing Education Committee.

Library Name: _____

Grant Director: _____ Title: _____

E-Mail: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

If awarded a grant, does the grant go to the library or library Friends or foundation? _____

Please answer all of the following statements on a separate page(s). **Address each bulleted and numbered section by titles, i.e. B. Project Description, B. 4 Implementation.**

Project Title

Project Description (must address each of the following):

Identify need

Goals

Objectives

Implementation

Letters of support or partnerships (optional)

Evaluation

Estimated cost / budget and total cost

Benefit to children / young adults. State in terms of results and outcomes for them based on goals.

Starting and completing dates

Grant Director

Date

**Eastern Library System
Board Meeting Minutes
August 10, 2007
Baright Library, Ralston**



Present: Carrie Turner, Barb Dean, Lupe Mier, Sam McMullen, Marie Reidelbach, Scott Berryman, John Seyfarth, Denise Lawver, Becky Sims, Joyce Neujahr, Kathy Tooker, Nancy Meyer.

President Denise Lawver called the meeting to order.

The May 18, 2007, minutes were reviewed. John moved and Carrie seconded to approve the minutes. Motion carries.

The May, June and the annual treasurer's reports were reviewed. Sam moved and Marie seconded to approve the reports. Motion carried. They will be filed for audit.

Correspondence: Kathy read a letter from the Nebraska Library Commission that stated the system will receive a 2% increase plus \$500. We have no formal contract yet.

Administrative Report: See written report. Kathy reviewed the Leadership Institute, Basic Skills, grants and upcoming programs and the colloquiums. Kathy reported on the quarterly meeting with NLC, library visits and SACL.

Committee Reports:

Technology – John reported that the ELS webpage is now hosted by Sump Memorial Library in Papillion. No other committee reports.

New Business:

Election of officers

President - Carrie moved and Marie seconded to nominate Denise Lawver. Motion carried.

Vice-president - Becky moved and Sam seconded to nominate Lupe Mier. Motion carried

Secretary – Lupe moved and Carrie seconded to nominate Mary Jo Mack. Motion carried

Treasurer – Barb moved and Marie seconded to nominate John Seyfarth. Motion carried

Appointment of Alternates:

John moved and Becky seconded to appoint Barb Dean, Dorothy Willis and Tammy Lorenz as alternates. Motion carried. Kathy will send a list of other possible alternates to the board for their consideration.

Employee Contracts:

Becky moved and Lupe seconded to approve the administrator's and administrative assistant's contracts. Motion carried.

Budget for FY 2007-2008:

Various line items were discussed. John moved and Carrie seconded to approve the budget. Motion carried

Committee Assignments:

A list of committees with the responsibilities of each committee along with a timeline was passed out to the board. Chairs for each committee will be decided later.

System Plan:

The 2007-2009 system plan was discussed. John moved and Carrie seconded to approve the plan. Motion carried.

DVD Player:

The loan policy for the DVD player was reviewed. Carrie moved and Marie seconded to approve the policy. Motion carried.

The system annual report was distributed.

Kathy suggested to the board to use part of the remaining money in our allotment of the regional library system's audio/digital grant for a one year subscription to Over Drive.

The regional library systems are considering applying for a grant to loan gaming equipment to libraries.

Carrie Turner and Robin Schrack will be going to Reno for the AASL Conference to present the Book Bag Project.

Carrie moved and Becky seconded to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Meyer, ELS Administrative Assistant

Next Meeting, October 12, 2007, Midland Lutheran College

**Eastern Library System Board Meetings
2007-2008**

October 12 - Midland Lutheran College

December 14 - John A. Stahl Library, West Point

February 8 - Bellevue University

April 11 - Neihardt Center, Bancroft

June - Annual Meeting (TBA)

Upcoming Events

September 28—E-rate training, Wahoo Public Library, 9 am to noon. Register at www.nlc.state.ne.us/training/train.asp.

October 4/5—Plum Creek Literature Festival, Concordia College, Seward.
<www.cune.edu/about/2040>.

October 12—ELS Board Meeting, Midland Lutheran College, 9:30 am.

October 12/16—Midwest & Midcontinental chapter of the Medical Library Association Conference, Omaha, Hilton Hotel. <www.mcmla.org/2007/index.html>.

October 14/20—Teen Read Week, <www.ala.org/yalsa/teenreading/teenreading.org>.

October 19—DIRECT Meeting (public library directors), Waterloo Public Library, 9:30—11:30 am.

October 22—Moonshell Storytelling Festival, Mahoney State Park.
<www.nebraskastoryarts.org/html>.

October 24—Preconferences

- LAMA Institute Image is Everything Preconference, Kearney, 9:30 am—3:30 pm.
<www.elsne.org>.
- Mem Fox, Kearney, 8:45 am—3:30 pm. <www.readaloudnebraska.org>.
- Computer Hardware Confidence, Kearney, 8:30 am—4 pm (2 sessions).
<www.2007nla-nema.info>.

October 29/October 6—Banned Books Week. <www.ala.org/ala/oif/bannedbooksweek.htm>.

November 5—CLICK Meeting (youth services librarians), Oakland Public Library, 9:30—11:30 am.

November 29—Eastern and Southeast Library System's Fall Colloquium, Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln, 5:30 pm. Registration at <www.elsne.org>

Check out the Nebraska Library Commission's web page calendar
<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libcal/libcal.html> for a schedule of events.
For more information on any of these events, call the System Office.

*Eastern Library System
11929 Elm Street, Suite 12
Omaha, NE 68144*

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